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Letter dated 15 March 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey the appreciation of the Spanish authorities and people for the expressions of sympathy and the willingness to cooperate demonstrated by the Security Council in its resolution 1530 (2004) of 11 March 2004, which was adopted only a few hours after the savage attacks that claimed the lives of 200 people in Madrid, and caused over 1,400 other casualties. About 190 people are still in a serious or critical condition.

Among the dead and wounded are nationals not only of Spain, but also of over 20 other countries, including Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Ireland, Morocco, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

In the past few days, we the people of Spain have felt the pain of the relatives of all those who were killed and all the wounded survivors.

When the Security Council adopted resolution 1530 (2004), my Government was firmly convinced that the terrorist group ETA was behind the terrible events of 11 March, because of the immediate background, because of information then available to it and because of the analysis of such information by the experts.

Since then, as a result of the active efforts of the Spanish security forces, new elements have been discovered that suggest other lines of investigation and point to the involvement of citizens of other countries in the attacks.

Investigations are continuing. No definitive conclusions can be reached at the moment. The Spanish Government will inform the Council of the result of the investigations.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and have it circulated as a Council document.

(*Signed*) Inocencio **Arias**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Spain

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